

ABERFELDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

In the Green Room, Aberfeldy Town Hall.

Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Welcome

Present: Victor Clements (Chair), Jean Duff (Treasurer), Rob Stubbs, Susan Craik

In Attendance: Cllr John Duff, Mary MacDougall (Aberfeldy Development Trust) and one member of the public.

4 X CC members meant the meeting was quorate.

Apologies

Lorraine Reed, Val Ferguson, Karen Mackay, Pat Spicer, Provost McDade and Norma Carr (Community warden).

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes were taken as read, proposed by JD and seconded by RS, subject to two changes proposed by Pat Spicer which were accepted.

Matters Arising

The sewage problem on Taybridge Drive had been resolved.

There had been no further complaints about toilets near Victoria Park.

It is understood that the Aberfeldy Coach garage site had been leased out. ADT still considering whether to register a community interest or not.

Cllr Duff would speak to Golf Club re condition of Wobbly Bridge, and whether the signs on it were appropriate or not.

There are still coaches parked up beside the Black Watch Memorial. It is understood there is no reason why they cannot be parked at the school. RS to follow up.

Crime Prevention and Community Safety

Cllr Duff confirmed that the 20 mph zone in Aberfeldy was fully legal and compliant.

Focus Topics:

Moness trees

The meeting received representation from Burns Brae outlining the problems they had been suffering there. A petition there would be collated to determine the extent of problem. We had over 100 names on wider petition.

Discussion was had about starting a wider campaign about the problem because it was not possible to take things forwards in any other way.

Graveyard

VC to speak to Derek Wittman again about this.

Cllr Duff to enquire whether people who have purchased layers in graveyard but never used them can be followed up and the layers made available to others.

Banking Hub

There had been no more progress on it. It is thought that local business interests are able to make use of existing provision of Post Office/ weekly bank van visits.

The cash machine at the Co-op was to be fixed this week.

Griffin Community Benefit Panel

Micro grants

There were 2 X microgrants to be considered after the meeting. The £5000 of microgrant money had now been received.

Main Fund

Nothing to report

Reports

Chair

The Gran Fondo would be taking place on 4th August, with the main Crieff Rd/ Taybridge Road being closed from 10.45am to 2.30 pm. There were concerns about this creating difficulties for people moving within the town, and for people moving through the town west-east or vice versa, with possible build-ups of traffic. Provision would be made for accessing health centre, and limited crossing may be possible under stewards supervision once main body of cyclists had passed.

We had been contacted by Have Your Say Aberfeldy about speaking to CC, but too late for this meeting. It is understood that their current consultation would be over in June.

PKC had launched their consultation on introducing controls for holiday lets. The CC had previously agreed unanimously to support this, and VC would fill in consultation response.

VC had been in communication with ADT re them co-ordinating an Aberfeldy response to Local Place Plans. The process would take 6- 12 months, and the purpose was to encourage community participation in deciding priorities for the town going forwards. The new ADT development officer may be in a position to co-ordinate the process.

Secretary

No secretary report

Treasurer

We had £5000.24 of microgrant money, £347.70 in administration grant money and £11.87 in road safety group funds.

JD had been experiencing problems with bank of Scotland, who were preventing her from repaying £15,000 to PKC, citing signature mandates, although key personnel had been signatories now for 14 years.

A meeting of office bearers would be convened to try and sort out paperwork.

Housing/Planning

Cottage Hospital

No further update on planning application. It is understood PKC and developer are still in discussion about various aspects of the project.

Other

No other business.

CLLr Reports

The PKC Chief Executive would be holding meeting in Aberfeldy in July, and would be taking the opportunity to look around the town, and speak to individuals about community issues and priorities.

The crossing times at the crossroads had been extended from 6- 10 seconds following complaint that people were not getting enough time to cross.

As previously reported, Highland Perthshire had been put forwards as a candidate for a new national park in Scotland.

There were likely to be significant job losses, possibly up to 50, at Perth College/ UHI, due to cutbacks, and this was likely to put at risk the range of courses being undertaken, and would cause concern among students on existing courses.

This coming weekend was the centenary celebration for the Perthshire & Angus provincial MOD, being held in Aberfeldy.

AOCB

There had been campervans parked inappropriately on pavement by petrol station, causing a blockage to traffic and a hazard to pedestrians. CLLr Duff to monitor, and enquire about additional bollards to prevent this. It has happened on a number of occasions.

There had been a report of a car hitting the war memorial. CLLr Duff to investigate.

Supporters of the Birks Cinema had been contacted about their financial problems at the moment, with funds required to try and keep the cinema and café open. It is believed that the problems are fairly significant, and closure was an option that had been discussed. COVID had created a long shadow, from which they had been struggling to recover, and ticket sales had not been good recently. Concern was expressed about raising money from the public to cover what was essentially a business operation.

Date of Next Meeting Tues 1st August 2023